

2008 BRAT Route Description

Saturday September 13th

Arrive at Warriors Path State Park in Kingsport TN

(<http://www.tnstateparks.com/WarriorsPath/>) to register, camp and get reacquainted with old friends and new,

Riders meeting at 6:30 at the Swimming Pool area.

Sunday September 14th

Warriors Path to Roan Mountain State Park – 58 miles

<http://www.tnstateparks.com/RoanMtn/>

This is a good day to climb! We travel through Bristol and Elizabethton with many scenic areas on the way. Much of today's climb is on old railroad grade roads that are great to ride.

Roan Mountain is a gem. We will camp near the Pool area and the group camping sites.

Close to camp is a beautiful mountain stream with trout. Roan Mountain has cabins but they book fast. Many choose to continue the ride up the mountain to the Appalachian Trail.

Monday September 15th

Roan Mountain to Davy Crockett Birthplace State Park – 65 miles

<http://www.tnstateparks.com/DavyCrockettSHP/>

After a short climb to Ripshin Lake, we get to experience a nearly 9-mile downhill! This is a lot of fun and increases everybody's average speed for the day! Traveling through the Cherokee national forest, Unicoi, Erwin and along the Nolichucky River to the place where Davy Crockett was born. Lots of elevation loss this day.

There will be historical programs and living history demonstrations for BRAT participants at the park.

Tuesday September 16th

Davy Crockett Birthplace to Gatlinburg <http://www.gatlinburg.com/>

This is a long day of around 84 miles. We travel through some spectacular back roads near the park. Gatlinburg is the gateway to the Great Smokey Mountains National Park. Great Smokey Mountains National Park is the most visited National Park in the country and for good reason. There is a lot to do and see here.

Wednesday September 17th

Lay over day! Today is all about you and whatever you want to do. We will have at least two loops planned one shorter and one a bit longer. There are several options for rides in the area that we will not have support for but would be great for the adventurous. The sights and lights of Gatlinburg are at your doorstep ...er...tent step. Walking distance to downtown Gatlinburg with shops restaurants and many attractions that could keep you busy for weeks. A ride to Dollywood would not be a bad choice either for those who like the amusement theme park experience.

Thursday September 18th

Gatlinburg to Jonesborough

<http://www.jonesboroughtn.org/>

Longest day (but we have SAGs) just shortened to 83 miles

We now head to Tennessee's oldest town. Jonesborough is the storytelling capital of the world. The *National Storytelling Festival*, started over 30 years ago, was the first celebration dedicated solely to the art of the storytelling. There are many bed and breakfasts in town.

You can stay where Andrew Jackson slept or stay in the oldest building in the oldest town in Tennessee. [Link to Official Visitors Guide.](#)

Friday September 19th

Lay-over day 2 any miles you choose

The riding around Jonesborough is great. At least two different loops taking in the history and scenic quality of this area are planned. Or you can walk to downtown Jonesborough to sight see and spend the day in shops and eateries. Friday nights in Jonesborough has music on the square with free concerts and great restaurants to try.

Saturday September 20th

Jonesborough to Warriors Path - 23 miles

Gotta go home sometime.

We will head back to our start point at Warriors Path State Park, a little tired-er but a lot richer in friends and experiences. Don't forget to leave time for a stop at the Grey fossil Site. In 2000, what has been termed "the most significant find in North America" from the Miocene Age was discovered in Gray, Tennessee. To date, numerous fossils of ancient mammals such as tapirs, horses, beavers, bears, and reptiles such as alligators and snakes have been unearthed. These discoveries have opened a very unique window into this prehistoric era in Tennessee and North America.